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THE

FIRST VOYAGE

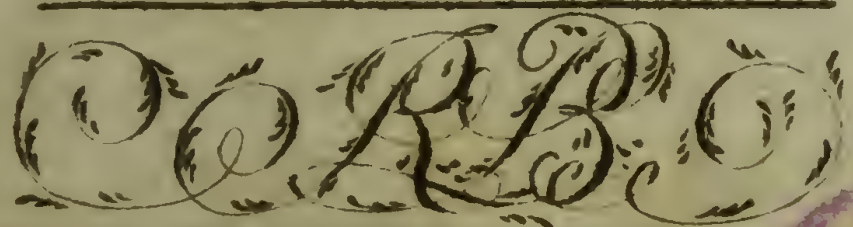
OF

COLUMBUS,

wherein he discovered

AMERICA.

Faithfully translated from the Spaniſh.



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THE FIRST VOYAGE OF COLUMBUS.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS born at Genoa, being early inſtructed in the art of navigation, ſpent the greateſt part of his youth at ſea, and ſeems to have been well acquainted with all the Portugueze diſcoveries, from cape Nao, in the kingdom of Morocco, to cape de Verd, which at that time was the utmoſt extent of their navigation.

Chriſtopher happening to be on board of one of the ſhips belonging to the famous corſair Columbus the younger, when he attacked four Venetian galleys near Cape St. Vincent, the veſſel in which he was, took fire, and he was obliged to commit himſelf to the ſea, in order to avoid the fury of the flames. Being an excellent ſwimmer, he reached the ſhore and went for Liſbon, where by his behavior he ſoon acquired a good number of friends, and engaged the affection of a lady of ſome fortune, who he married with her mother's conſent.

Among the papers of his wife's father, who had been ſome time dead, he found a great many manuſcripts and ſome charts, the peruſal of which inſpired him with the ambition of making a diſcovery which ſhould

eclipſe

eclipſe every thing of the kind which had been hitherto achieved.

He ſoon became perſuaded, that ſo great a part of the globe as was then unknown, muſt conſiſt of ſomething elſe than ſea, and that is was practicable to find a ſhorter way to the Indies by the weſt, than by way of the Cape of Good Hope, for he firmly believed that the Eaſt Indies extended ſo far eaſterly, as to be within the reach of a ſhort voyage performed in a weſterly direction.

Poſſeſſed of this notion, he addreſſed himſelf to John II. king of Portugal, who liſtened attentively to his project, though he did not altogether approve of his propoſal.

John amuſed him for ſome time, during which he thought he had extracted the very eſſence of his ſcheme, and under pretence of ſending ſupplies to the Cape de Verd Iſlands, fitted out a veſſel in order to diſcover the Indies on his own account. However, this ungenerous enterprize miſcarried, and thoſe charged with its execution returned to Cape de Verd, fully perſuaded that the project was altogether chimerical.

Columbus, ſo deeply reſented this unfair conduct of the king, that he left Portugal, and offered his ſervice to the king and queen of Caſtile, Ferdinand and Iſabella, to whom he preſented his plan and propoſals: but this ſtep he did not take 'till after he had ſent his brother Bartholomew with the ſame

offers

offers to Henry VII. king of England. who in all probability would have been the proprietor of the new world, had not Bartholomew been taken and ſtripped by pirates in his paſſage; ſo that when he arrived in London, he was reduced to ſuch extreme poverty as utterly diſabled him from promoting his ſuit, and obtaining an audience of his Majeſty, until by making and vending ſea charts, he in the courſe of ſeveral years acquired ſome reputation and at laſt found means to communicate his ſcheme, which met with all the encouragement he could deſire: but by that time, his brother had actually failed in the ſervice of their Caſtilian majeſties. Even Chriſtopher did not carry his point 'till after he had perſevered

in

in his ſolicitations for the ſpace of eight years, at the end of which time he was unexpectedly recalled by the queen of Caſtile, by the perſuaſion of Lewis de St. Angelo, her confeſſor, who prevailed upon her to comply with the demands of Columbus, and even lent her money to promote the expedition.

Chriſtopher, was immediately appointed admiral on the ocean, to enjoy all the appointments, prerogatives, and privileges annexed to the flags of Caſtile and Leon in their reſpective ſeas; it was agreed, that all civil employments in the iſlands and continent to be diſcovered, ſhould be wholly at his diſpoſal; that all governments ſhould be given to one of thoſe perſons he ſhould

name

name; that he ſhould appoint judges in Spain for Indian affairs; that over and above the ſalary and perquiſites of admiral, viceroy and governor, he ſhould have the tenth of all that was bought, bartered found or acquired within the limits of his admiralſhip, after the charge of the conqueſt ſhould be defrayed, together with an eighth part of all that he ſhould bring home in his fleet; in conſideration of which he ſhould be at an eighth part of the expence.

Theſe articles being ſettled, the admiral repaired to Palos, in order to forward his equipment, which conſiſted of three ſmall veſſels, namely, the Santa Maria, admiral Columbus, the La Pinta, Martin Alonzo

Alonzo Pinzon, and La Nina with square sails, commanded by his brother Vincent Yanes Pinzon, both natives of Palos.

These vessels being furnished with provisions, necessaries, and ninety men, set sail on Saturday, the third day of August, in the year 1492. Thursday the eighth, about break of day they saw the Canary Islands. The wind being in their teeth, two days elapsed before they could anchor at Gran Canaria, where the admiral left Pinzon with directions to procure if possible another ship in the room of that he commanded, whose rudder had been much injured, while himself, accompanied by La Nina, sailed on the same design for the Island Gomera, which he reached on Sunday.

Upon

Upon his firſt arrival he ſent his boat on ſhore to enquire after a veſſel, and at its return next day underſtood there was not one in the whole iſland, though the inhabitants hourly expected Donna Beatrix de Bobadilla their proprietreſs from the Gran Canaria in a veſſel of forty tons, which might be eaſily fitted for his voyage. In conſequence of this information, he reſolved to wait for her arrival, and in the mean time ſent a man on board of a bark bound for Gran Canaria to inform Pinzon of the place where he lay, and help him to repair his rudder in caſe he had not been able to procure another ſhip. Having waited a long time in vain for an anſwer, he reſolved to return to Gran Canaria, and ſailing on the twenty fourth, came up with

the

the bark which had been hitherto detained by contrary winds: that ſame night he ſailed cloſe by the iſland of Teneriffe, and next day anchored at the Gran Canaria, where he found Pinzon, who told him that the lady Beatrix had ſailed ſome days before, in that veſſel for which he had waited ſo long. Although he was mortified at this diſappointment, he reſolved to repair the damaged caraval as well as he could, by furniſhing her with a new rudder, and at the ſame time to alter the ſquare ſails of La Nina, ſo as that ſhe might be the more able to keep eompany with her conſorts.

Thus refitted and improved, they departed from the Gran Canaria on the firſt of

of September, and next day arrived at Gomera, where ſome time being ſpent in laying in proviſions, wood and water, they ſet ſail and ſtood away to the weſtward. On Sunday the ninth, about day break, the admiral found himſelf nine leagues weſt of the Iſland of Ferro, where they loſt ſight of land, and many people on board wept bitterly. Columbus perceiving this deſpondence, comforted them with the moſt confident aſſurances of wealth and proſperity, and although they ſailed eighteen leagues that day, pretended they had made no more than fifteen, reſolving to diſguiſe his reckoning in this manner not only to his mariners but officers during the whole voyage, that they might not think themſelves

ſelves ſo far from Spain as they really were.

Continuing the ſame courſe, he on Wedneſday the twelfth of September, being one hundred and fifty leagues weſt of Ferro, diſcovered the body of a large tree, which ſeemed to have been a long time upon the water.

On the fourteenth, the people on board the La Nina, had the preceeding day, been ſurpriſed at the ſight of a tropic-bird, which the Spaniards call rabo de junco: but the next day they were ſtill more aſtoniſhed when they ſaw the ſea, in a manner covered with green and yellow weeds, which ſeemed to be lately waſhed away from the land.

From

From this phenomenon they concluded that they were near ſome country.

On Tueſday, the eighteenth of September Martin Alonzo Pinzon, captain of the Pinta, being a-head, lay to for the admiral, and told him that he had ſeen a great number of birds flying weſtward, ſo that he expected that night to diſcover land, which indeed he thought he already deſcried to the northward, at the diſtance of fifteen leagues. But this was a notion to which no regard was paid by the admiral, who therefore would loſe no time in altering his courſe, notwithſtanding the ſolicitations of his people. However, as the wind began to freſhen, they took in their topſails at night, this being the firſt time they had occaſion

occaſion to trim a ſail, in the ſpace of eleven days, during which they ſtill continued their courſe weſtwsrd.

On the nineteenth day of September in the morning, the admiral ſeeing a number of ſea gulls, began to conceive hopes of land, from which he ſuppoſed theſe fowls would not fly a great way, and in that opinion ſounding with a line of two hnndred fathom he found no bottom.

On Thurſday the twenty ſecond, the wind blew from the ſouth weſt, which tho' cotnrary, gave great ſatisfaction to the admiral, in as much as he could now convince thc crew of the vanity of their fears, in ſuppoſing, that as the wind had always been

been right a-ſtern, they ſhould never have a fair gale to carry them back. Yet in ſpite of his reaſons and remonſtrances, the crew began to murmur, in apprehenſion of periſhing at ſea, in queſt of a country that was no where to be found; and their diſcontent roſe to ſuch a degree of clamour that in all probabilily a mutiny would have, enſued, had not a briſk wind ſprung up at weſt-north-weſt, and demonſtrated that they would always have a chance for returning: beſides, their hope of land was revived by a bird that flew over the ſhip, and the flight of ſeveral others from the weſt.

The more the people were elated by theſe ſigns, the greater was their mortification

tion when they found themſelves diſappointed: and now, they not only loudly complained, but even began to cabal againſt the admiral, whom they ſaid, from a fooliſh and ill grounded fancy, had formed a deſign of raiſing his own family and fortune at the expence of all their lives and labour: they ſuggeſted to one another that they had already proceeded far enough to manifeſt their courage and perſeverance, and that it was now high time to return to their friends and country, even if they ſhould be obliged to compel Columbus to gratify their deſire in this particular. They were the more ſanguine in the proſecution of this ſcheme, as they ſuppoſed the admiral, who was a foreigner, could not have intereſt enough at court to bring them

them to condign punishment for their disobedience and rebellion, especially as they knew he had powerful enemies, who would embrace every opportunity of frustrating his designs: nay, to such a pitch of fury were they wrought by their terror and despair, that some among them actually proposed to throw him overboard.

Columbus was not ignorant of the mutinous spirit that possessed his men, and exerted uncommon address in quelling it; sometimes by representing the duty they owed him, who was vested with a legal authority, which he was resolved to maintain, though at the hazard of his life; and sometimes by reproaching them with their impatience and pusilanimity, which

even the moſt apparent ſigns of land could not repreſs. In a few words, he refuted their fears, ſoothed their diſquiets, and encouraged their hopes.

On Tueſday the twenty fifth day of September, about ſun ſetting, Pinzon, whoſe ſhip was along ſide of the admiral, all of a ſudden called out land! land! and pointed towards the ſouth-weſt, where they perceived ſomething like an iſland, at the diſtance of five aud twenty leagues. Though Columbus did not in his own mind aſſent to the inference they had drawn, he in compliance with the demand of his men, ſtood towards the ſuppoſed iſland during the beſt part of the night, and in the morning they ſaw it vaniſh in the clouds. Next day they

ſaw

ſeveral gulls, and abundance of flying fiſh, which are in length about ſeven or eight inches, furniſhed with two little membranous wings, or rather broad fins, by the help of which they fly above water when purſued by the dolphins, and very often drop into veſſels; for as their wings become dry in a very little time, the utmoſt extent of their flight does not exceed a bow ſhot.

On Monday, the firſt day of October, the pilot of the admiral's ſhip was by account five hundred and ſeventy eight leagues weſt of the iſland of Ferro, and tho' the reckoning of Columbus amounted to ſeven hundred and ſeven, he winked at the other's groſs miſtake, leſt the ſailors ſhould

be quite dejected by knowing exactly how far they were from home. On the third, ſeeing no birds, they conjectured that they had ſlipt between ſome iſlands, and the men earneſtly entreated the admiral to ſteer either to the one ſide or to the other, in queſt of the land which they imagined they had left behind; but Columbus would not comply with their entreaties, becauſe he was unwilling to loſe the favorable wind which carried him to the weſtward, which he accounted his ſureſt courſe, and would not take any ſtep to leſſen the reputation of his undertaking, which muſt have ſuffered in the opinion of his people, had he changed his direction from that which he had all along aſſured them would terminate in the accompliſhment of their wiſhes.

This

This fortitude of the admiral they interpreted into obſtinacy and madneſs, and were actually on the brink of taking ſome deſperate ſtep to his prejudice, when their fury was appeaſed by the arrival of above forty ſparrows, and ſome other land birds that came from the weſtward.

On Sunday, the ſeventh of October, ſome imperfect ſigns of land appeared, but no man on board would venture to mention it, becauſe their catholic majeſties had promiſed a penſion of thirty crowns for life, to him who ſhould firſt diſcover land. But in order to prevent their noiſy exclamations at every trifling ſymptom or conceit, it was likewiſe decreed, that whoſoever ſhould cry land,

three

three days before it was actually made ſhould forfeit the reward, even though he ſhould afterwards prove the diſcoverer.

Notwithſtanding this precaution, the Nina, which being the beſt ſailer, kept always a-head, fired a gun, and hoiſted the colors, in token of land; but the farther they ſailed, the more they were convinced of their miſtake, for the appearance that miſled them totally vaniſhed as they advanced. Next day however, they were in ſome meaſure conſoled for their diſappointment by many flights of great fowl and ſmall land birds from the weſt to the ſouth-weſt, and the admiral being fully perſuaded that they could not go far to ſea, he in imitation of the Portugueze, who had diſco-

vered

vered many iſlands by following the direction of ſuch birds, altered his courſe and ſtood to the ſouth-weſt, having now run ſeven hundred and fifty leagues to the weſtward of the Canaries, within which ſpace he had hoped to find Hiſpaniola, which he then called Cipango.

On Monday, October the eighth, they were viſited by ſinging birds of different colors, and ſaw a number of others, great and ſmall, flying towards the ſouth-weſt; they likewiſe perceived the air to be freſh and odoriferous; but the crew had been ſo often deceived, that even theſe certain ſigns could not ſuppreſs their murmurs, which during the two ſucceeding days increaſed to ſuch a degree, in ſpite of all the

efforts

efforts of the admiral, that he would not have been able much longer to withſtand the ſtorm of their diſcontent, which was ready to burſt in open rebellion, when it was providentially diſſipated by ſuch manifeſt tokens of neighboring land, as they could no longer diſcredit.

On Thurſday, the eleventh of October, thoſe on board the admiral ſaw a green ruſh, together with a large rock fiſh ſwim by the ſhip; the people of the Pinta diſcovered a cane floating, and took up a ſtaff curiouſly wrought, together with a ſmall board, and abundance of weeds newly waſhed from the banks: at the ſame time the crew of the Nina perceived a branch of thorn full of red berries.

The

The admiral being aſſured of the vicinity of land, harrangued his men at night, reminding them of the mercy of God, in granting them fair weather during ſuch a long voyage, and exhorted them to be extremely vigilant for that night, as he firmly expected to ſee land next day, and in order to encourage them to be watchful, he not only mentioned the penſion of thirty crowns, but alſo promiſed to give a velvet doublet to him who ſhould be the firſt diſcoverer. After this ſpeech, he about ten o' clock retired to the great cabin, from whence perceiving what appeared to be a light on ſhore, he called to one Peter Gutierres, who being deſired to obſerve, ſaid he plainly ſaw it, and conjectured it to be a candle or torch belonging to ſome fiſherman

erman or traveller, becauſe it ſeemed to move, and vaniſhed, and appeared by turns. This appearance encreaſed their vigilance and caution, though they ſtill held on their courſe 'till about two in the morning, when the Pinta being far a-head gave the ſignal of land, which was firſt diſcovered by a ſailor, called Roderic de Triana, at the diſtance of two leagues: but he did not enjoy the penſion, which was granted to the admiral, who had before perceived the light.

Being ſo near the ſhore, all the ſhips lay to, and the people waited for morning with the utmoſt impatience of hope, that they might feaſt their eyes with what they had ſo long, and ſo eagerly wiſhed to behold.

Day

Day no ſooner broke, than they perceived an iſland, about fifteen leagues in length, almoſt one continued plain, without hills, covered with green trees, ſupplied with delicious ſtreams, and a great lake in the middle; and inhabited by a number of people, who ran down to the ſhore aſtoniſhed at the ſight of ſhips, which they at firſt miſtook for living creatures. As for the Spaniards, they were inflamed by the moſt eager curioſity, to know the particulars of this intereſting diſcovery, and the veſſels were no ſooner brought to an anchor, than the admiral went aſhore with his boat well armed, and the royal ſtandard diſplayed, being attended by the other two captains in their reſpective boats, with the particular enſigns of this enterprize,

diſtinguiſhed

diſtinguiſhed by an F. with a green croſs on one ſide, and the names of Ferdinand and Iſabella crowned on the other.

As ſoon as they had landed, they kneeled on the ſhore, giving thanks to God for his indulgence, and kiſſed the ground while they ſhed tears of joy; then the admiral called the iſland St. Salvador, and took poſſeſſion of it for their catholic majeſties: he was acknowledged as admiral and viceroy by the Spaniards, who ſwore to obey him as the repreſentative of their majeſties, and implored his pardon for the affronts and inſults he had ſo patiently borne from them.

A great number of the Indians being preſent at the tranſaction, and appearing

to

to be very ſimple, quiet, and peaceable, Columbus diſtributed among them ſome things of ſmall value, which they received with tranſport, aud ſeemed to prize at a very high rate. Nay, when he returned to his ſhip, ſome of them ſwam after him and others followed in canoes with parrots, bottoms of ſpun cotton, javelins, and other trifles, to barter for beads, bells, and other inconſiderable toys. They were of a middle ſtature, well ſhaped, of an olive color, with black hair cut ſhort above the ears. Their countenances were open, their features regular, and their foreheads high. The faces of ſome, and bodies of others were painted black, white, and red, though in a few the noſes and eyes only were colored.

On

On being aſked by ſigns how they came by thoſe wounds, the marks of which they ſtill retained on their bodies, they anſwered in the ſame kind of language, that they were received in their own defence, againſt the inhabitants of other iſlands, who came with a view to enſlave them. The only ſpecies of living creatures that the iſlands produced, were parrots, which they bartered with the ſailors.

Next day, being the thirteenth of October, in the morning, a great number of theſe Indians came on board in their canoes which are made by hollowing the trunk of a tree, ſome of them being ſo ſmall as to hold one perſon only, and others large enough to contain forty; they are rowed with

with paddles, and ſo light that if they chance to be overſet, the rowers can eaſily ſet them upright again, and empty the water with calabaſhes, which they keep for that purpoſe.

They were ſo greedy of poſſeſſing any thing belonging to the Spaniards, that if they could pick up a bit of broken earthen ware they would leap into the ſea and ſwim aſhore with it, and they would exchange any thing they had for the greateſt trifles: ſome of them gave five and twenty pounds of ſpun cotton for three ſmall pieces of Portugueze braſs coin not worth a farthing.

Next Sunday, being the fourteenth of October

tober, the admiral in his boats coaſted the iſland towards the north-weſt, until he found a large bay or harbour. In this circuit he was attended by crowds of the inhabitants, who followed him by ſea and land, expreſſing their wonder and regard by a thouſand geſticulatious; and arrived at a peninſula, where he ſaw half a dozen of their houſes and plantations, as pleaſant as thoſe of England in the month of June. But finding this was not the land he looked for, he took ſeven of theſe Indians to ſerve as interpreters, and returning to his ſhips, ſailed on the diſcovery of other iſlands that were diſcernable from the peninſula, reported by the inhabitants of St. Salvador to be fruitful and populous.

On Monday, having ſailed ſeven leagues he arrived at the weſt end of one, about ten leagues in length, which he called St. Mary, but perceiving little or no difference between the inhabitants of this iſland and thoſe of St. Salvador. nor any thing elſe worth notice in its productions, he continued his courſe weſtward, and anchored upon the coaſt of another larger iſland, extending north-weſt and ſouth eaſt, above eight and twenty leagues. Before he reached this pleaſant ſpot, which he named Fernandina, he took up at ſea an Indian in a ſmall canoe, furniſhed with a piece of their bread, a calabaſh full of water, and a little earth like vermilion, with which thoſe people paint their bodies; he was likewiſe provided with ſome dried leaves, valued for

their agreeable and wholeſome ſmell, and a little baſket, containing a ſtring of glaſs beads, and two ſmall pieces of Portugueze money, from which circumſtances it appeared he was bound from St. Salvador to Fernandina, with the ſtrange news of the admiral's arrival; but the voyage being long, he was weary with paddling, and deſired to be taken on board. Columbus granted his requeſt, treated him courteouſly, and ſent him on ſhore, that he might prepoſſeſs the natives of Fernandina in favor of the new comers. The ſucceſs anſwered the admiral's expectation, for in conſequence of the favorable account given by the Indian, the iſlanders came aboard in their canoes, to barter with the ſame ſort of commodities as they found at St. Salva-

dor

dor; but they ſeemed to have more ſagacity than the other, and made more advantageous bargains. Theſe people had ſome cotton cloth in their houſes.

Finding nothing valuable in this iſland, Columbus, on Friday, October the nineteenth, ſailed to another, on which he beſtowed the name of Iſabella, in honor of the queen. This in beauty and extent far exceeded the others; for beſides that it abounded with ſtreams pleaſant meadows and groves, the proſpect was diverſified with hills. The admiral landed to perform the ceremony of taking poſſeſſion, and walked through ſome delightful meadows, where the ear was raviſhed with the ſongs of birds.

Proceeding towards the inland parts, they arrived at a town, the people of which fled with all the goods they could carry off, but the admiral forbiding his men to touch any thing they had left, their fear ſoon ſubſided, and they, of their own accord came down to the ſhips to barter.

Columbus, having made himſelf acquainted with the produce of Iſabella, ſet ſail with a fair wind for a large country, extolled by the Indians under the name of Cuba, lying towards the ſouth, at the north ſide of which he arrived on Sunday, the twenty eighth of October.

This iſland at firſt ſight juſtified what had been ſaid in its praiſe; for it exhibited a moſt

moſt enchanting variety of hills and dales, woods and plains, and appeared to be of much conſequence, by the greatneſs and extent of its coaſts and rivers.

In order to obtain ſome intelligence of the natives, the admiral anchored in a large river, the banks of which were ſhaded by thick and tall trees, adorned with bloſſoms and fruit altogether unknown in Europe. Theſe were tenanted by a great number of birds, and the ground was cloathed with graſs of a moſt luxuriant growth.

The Spaniards not far from this place, entered two houſes which were deſerted by the people, who terrified at the appearance of the ſhips, had betaken themſelves

to

to flight, leaving their nets and fiſhing tackle, together with a dog. However, they ſuſtained no damage; for the Spaniards, without touching any of their utenſils, reimbarked, and continued their courſe weſtward, until they arrived at the mouth of another river, which the admiral called de Mares. This being more conſiderable than the other, the ſhips entered and ſailed up a good way, the banks of which were inhabited; but here too the natives fled with all the effects they could carry to the mountains, which appeared round and lofty, covered with verdant plants and ſtately trees.

Columbus foreſeeing that he ſhould never be able to learn the nature of the iſland, if the inhabitants ſhould continue to avoid

him

him in this manner; and reflecting that in caſe he ſhould land with a number of men, their terror would be encreaſed, he ordered two Spaniards, attended by the Indian of St. Salvador, and another of Cuba who had ventured to come aboard in his canoe, to travel up into the country, and to behave obligingly to the people they ſhould find; and in the mean time he directed the ſhip to be careened: on which occaſion he obſerved that all their fuel was maſtick wood.

The ſhip was repaired and ready to ſail by the fifth of November, when the two ambaſſadors returned, accompanied by two Indians of rank, and informed the admiral that thay had travelled twelve leagues into the

the country, where they found a town consisting of fifty wooden houses covered with straw, made like those in the other islands, which altogether contained about one thousand persons: that they were met by the principal men of the place, who led them by the arms to the town, where they were accommodated with a spacious lodging, in which they sat upon wooden seats, formed in the shapes of strange animals, with their tails lifted up for leaning places, and eyes and ears of gold.

While the Spaniards lolled upon these benches, the Indians sat around them on the floor, and then came one by one to kiss the hands and feet of the strangers, whom they supposed had come from heaven: they

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at the ſame time treated them with ſome boiled roots, not unlike cheſnuts in taſte. After the men had thus fulfilled the rites of hoſpitality, they retired and made room for the women, who with the ſame expreſſions of veneration, kiſſed the hands and feet of the Spaniards, whom they likewiſe entertained with their homely fare. This favorable reception they owed to their two Indian attendants, who had repreſented the Spaniards as a humane and generous people.

When they ſet out on their return for the ſhip, a great number of people propoſed to accompany them, but they refuſed this courteous offer, and would accept of none but the king and his ſon, whom the admi-

ral

ral treated with great civillity and reſpect. In their return, under the protection of this eſcort, the two Spaniards had been kindly entertained at ſeveral petty towns, and met with a great number of the inhabitants, who always carried lighted brands to kindle their fires, with which they roaſted thoſe roots which conſtituted their chief food and to perfume themſelves with certain herbs which they gathered for that purpoſe. They likewiſe ſaw a variety of birds and fowl, among which were partridges and nightingales, but no quadrupeds, except thoſe ſilent dogs we have already mentioned: great part of the land was cultivated, and bore caſſava, a ſort of beans, and a kind of grain called maize, of which was made a very well taſted flour.

Their

Their principal manufacture was cotton, of which the Spaniards ſaw vaſt quantities well ſpun. The Indians afterwards carried great quantities of this cotton on board of the ſhips, where they exchanged a baſket full for a thong of leather; indeed it could be of no great value to themſelves, inaſmuch as they go almoſt naked.

They had no gold, pearls, or ſpice, but pointed towards the east, to a country called Bohio, in which there was great plenty: the admiral reſolved to ſail thither; but before he departed from Cuba, he took twelve Indians, men, women, and children, whom he intended to carry into Spain, and this ſeizure was made with ſo little diſturbance, that a man, who was huſband

to

to one of the females, came aboard in his canoe, and begged he might accompany his wife and children: the admiral being very well pleased by this instance of natural affection, granted his request, and treated them with great tenderness.

That same day being the thirteenth of November, he returned to the eastward for the island Borneo; but the wind blowing hard at north he was obliged to come to an anchor again, among some highlands, near a large harbour which he called del Principe: the sea in the neighborhood of this port being covered with islands that lay so close together, that the greatest distance between any two of them did not exceed a quarter of a league: they produced a

number

number of green trees, among others the maſtic, aloes, and palm, and though they were not inhabited, the people of Cuba reſort to them in their canoes, and live ſome time upon them, ſupported by the fiſh and fowl they catch, together with what they find upon the ſurface of the earth. In one of theſe iſlands the Spaniards killed a beaſt like a badger, caught a fiſh that reſembled a hog, and found a quantity of mother of pearl.

On Monday, November the nineteenth Columbus put to ſea from Prince's port, ſteering eaſtward for the iſland of Bohio or Hiſpaniola; but the wind being contrary, he was forced to ply two or three days between the iſlands of Cuba and Iſabella; and

and in this interval he was deſerted by Martin Alonzo Pinzon, who having been informed by ſome Indians whom he had concealed in his caraval, that Bohio abounded with gold, made uſe of the advantage he derived from his veſſel which was a prime ſailer, and left Columbus in the night, with a view to anticipate his ſucceſs and engroſs the treaſure of that wealthy country. The admiral being thus abandoned by one of his conſorts, and the weather being ſo rough that he could not keep the ſea, he returned to another harbour in Cuba, which he named St. Catherine: here while the crews were employed in taking in wood and water, he by accident perceived ſigns of gold on ſome ſtones in the river, and further up in the country, ſaw moun-

tains

tains covered with ſuch tall pines, as would furniſh maſts for the largeſt ſhips; and plenty of excellent oak for planks.

In his run along the coaſt, for ten or twelve leagues to the ſouth eaſt, he diſcovered ſeveral large rivers and excellent harbours, and was ſo raviſhed with the beauty of the country, that in mentioning the place which he called Puerto Santo, he ſays, he entered the river, where he found from five to eight fathoms of water, and proceeding a conſiderable way further up in his boat, he was delighted with the tranſparency of the water, through which he could plainly ſee the ſandy bottom, and with abundance and variety of verdant plains and lofty trees, inhabited by birds of diffe-

rent

rent notes and plumage; ſo that he was even tempted in this delicious ſpot to fix his habitation for life. In his progreſs he ſaw a canoe drawn upon land, as large as a twelve oar barge, and in a houſe hard by, he found a ball of wax and a man's ſkull, in two baſkets hanging at a poſt: but no perſon appeared, from whom he could receive the leaſt information. They afterwards ſaw another canoe ſeventy feet in length, capable of containing fifty men, though made from the ſimple trunk of a tree.

Columbus having ſailed one hundred and ſix leagues along ſhore, arrived at the eaſt end of Cuba, which he called Alpha, and on Wedneſday, December the fifth, ſtruck off for Hiſpaniola, which though

but

but at the distance of sixteen leagues, he was by the currents prevented from reaching 'till next day, when he anchored in port St, Nicholas, so named by him in honor of that saint, whose festival it happened to be. This harbour is large, deep, safe, and encompassed with many tall trees though the country is rocky, and the tree in general not so large as those of Cuba Here however he found small oaks, myrtles, and other shrubs, with a pleasant river that ran along a plain towards the port, round which he saw canoes as large as fifteen oar barges. However, he could not establish any intercourse with the inhabitants, who fled at his approach, so that he ran along the coast to the northward, until he arrived at a port which he called the Coucepti-

on, lying almoſt due ſouth of a ſmall iſland afterwards known by the name of Tortuga.

Obſerving that this land of Bohio was very extenſive, and reſembled the coaſt of Spain, not only in the trees and plants but alſo in the fiſhes; for they had caught ſoals, ſalmon, pilchards and crabs; the admiral beſtowed upon it the name of Hiſpaniola: here he ſaw numbers of natives who fled from his men with great precipitation; but at length having caught a young woman who had a plate of gold hanging at her noſe, ſhe was carried to the ſhips and preſented with ſeveral baubles, ſuch as bells, and glaſs, then without having received the leaſt inſult, was diſmiſſed to the town where ſhe dwelt, attended by

three

three Indians and as many Spaniards.

Next day, eleven men going aſhore well armed, travelled four leagues up the country to a large town, and though the inhabitants betook themſelves to their heels as uſual, they ſoon returned at the perſuaſion of the St. Salvador Indian, who went after them and repreſented the Spaniards in a favorable light. Being now poſſeſſed with a firm belief that the Spaniards had come from heaven, they gazed upon them with equal aſtoniſhment and awe, preſented them with victuals, and preſſed them to ſtay all night in their village. The Spaniards however returned to their ſhips, and reported that the country was pleaſant and fertile, and the people whiter and handſomer

than thoſe they had hithereo ſeen; that they were tractable and courteous, and gave them to underſtand the gold country lay farther to the eaſtward.

The admiral hearing this account, ſet ſail immediately, and on the fifteenth day of December, while he plied between Tortuga and Hiſpaniola, in a very rough ſea, he took up an Indian from a little canoe, whom he was ſurpriſed to ſee live in ſuch tempeſtuous weather, and ſet him ſafe on ſhore, with ſome preſents of ſmall value. This man having ſignified to his countrymen how kindly he had been treated, they ventured to come on board, but brought nothing of conſequence, except ſome ſmall grains of gold hanging in their ears and nostrils

noſtrils, of which, as they expreſſed by ſigns, there was a great quantity higher up in the country.

Next day, while the Spaniards were on ſhore, bartering with the cacique or lord of that diſtrict for a plate of gold, a canoe with forty men approached from the iſland of Tortuga, and the cacique no ſooner perceived them, than he and his people ſat down on the ſtrand, in ſignal that they ſhould not commit hoſtilities: notwithſtanding this token of peace they landed, upon which he roſe, and by dint of threats induced them to reimbark; then he preſented a ſtone to one of the Spaniſh officers, deſiring him to throw it at the Tortugans, as a proof that he would eſpouſe the cauſe

of

of the Spaniards againſt the Indians of the canoe, who immediately returned to their own iſland.

On Tueſday, December the eighteenth, the ſame cacique came down in ſtate, being carried on a palanquin, and attended by two hundred men; he without ſcruple went on board the admiral, who was at dinner, and entered the cabin without ceremony, accompanied by two ancient men, who ſeemed to be his chief counſellors, and ſat down at his feet. He was received with great civillity and reſpect, and treated with victuals and wine, which having taſted he ſent to his people who remained on deck. After dinner, during which he and his miniſters ſpoke very little, he preſented the admiral

admiral with a wrought girdle and two thin pieces of gold; in return for which he received a counterpane, a ſtring of fine amber beads from the admiral's own neck, a pair of red ſhoes, and a bottle of orange flower water, which were ſo agreeable to the prince, that he and his counſellors told Columbus the whole iſland was at his command. Then the admiral ſurpriſed him with the ſight of a gold medal ſtamped with the effigies of Ferdinand and Iſabella, which he conſidered with admiration, and indeed expreſſed ſigns of admiration at every thing he ſaw. In the evening he was at his own deſire ſent on ſhore in the ſhip's boat, and ſaluted with the diſcharge of ſeveral guns, the noiſe of which filled him with terror and amazement: however, he was

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ſo well pleaſed with his reception, that he ordered his people to entertain the Spaniards who conducted him to land, and returned to the place of his reſidence, the admiral's preſents being carried before him with great pomp and oſtentation.

On Monday, the 24th. of December the admiral weighed and ſailed to Punta Sancta, where he anchored about a league from ſhore, and the weather being quite calm, he retired to reſt, which he had not enjoyed for two days: the crew followed his example, and contrary to the orders he had always given, left a boy at the helm. This their neglect and diſobedience proved fatal to the veſſel, which about midnight was carried by the current upon a ridge of rocks

rocks, before one ſoul on board was aware of the danger. The admiral himſelf was the firſt, who being waked by the cries of the boy at the helm, ran upon deck, where perceiving their ſituation, he ordered the maſter and three ſailors to take the boat, and carry out an anchor aſtern. They accordingly jumped into the boat, but inſtead of obeying his directions, rowed to the other caraval, for the preſervation of their own lives: he immediately cauſed the maſts to be cut away, and the veſſel to be lightened as much as poſſible; but all his efforts were ineffectual, and the water ebbing away, her ſeams opened, and all below deck was full of water. In this emergency the boat returned from the other caraval, which would not receive the men

who

who had run away with her, and the admiral seeing no hopes of saving his own ship, carried his men on board of the other, with which he lay to 'till morning, and then approached the land within the shoal, after having dispatched messengers to inform the king of his misfortune, and solicit the assistance of the natives in unloading the vessel. The cacique condoled the Spaniards with tears in his eyes, and ordered his people to repair in their canoes to the wreck, and obey the admiral's directions. By the assistance of these honest and friendly people, every thing of value was carried on shore, and deposited in houses appointed for that purpose, which were guarded with such vigilance and fidelity, that nothing of any consequence was lost.

On

On Wedneſday, December the twenty ſixth, this hoſpitable prince made another viſit to the admiral, whom he conſoled for his loſs with many demonſtrations of ſorrow and ſympathy, told him he might command his whole fortune, preſented him with ſome vizor maſks, the eyes, noſe, and ears of which were made of gold, and perceiving how fond the Spaniards were of that metal, promiſed to ſend for a great quantity from a place called Cebao; meanwhile a canoe arrived from ſome other iſland with Indians, who brought plates of gold to exchange for bells, which they valued above every other commodity, and the ſeamen aſhore carried on a trade with the natives of Hiſpahiola, who came from the in-

land part of the country, and bartered gold for very trifles.

Columbus was ſo well pleaſed with the nature and productions of this iſland, as well as with the manners of the inhabitants, that he reſolved to ſettle a colony of Spaniards, who by maintaining a friendly intercourſe with the natives, might learn their language and cuſtoms, and acquire ſuch information of the wealth and ſituation of the different parts of the iſland, as could not fail turning out greatly to the advantage of Spain. This ſtep he was the more encouraged to take, becauſe many of his men voluntarily offered to ſtay, and the cacique, far from taking umbrage at their neighborhood, conſidered them as valuable allies

allies, who would protect them from the invaſions of the Caribee Indians, a ſavage race of canibals, by whom his ſubjects were frequently killed and devoured. In order to evince the importance of his friendſhip, he, in preſence of this prince, whoſe name was Guacanigari, ordered a great gun to be fired againſt the ſide of the wrecked veſſel, through which the bullet penetrated, and fell into the water on the other ſide, to the amazement of the Indians, who believed that their gueſts were in poſſeſſion of heaven's thunder, and earneſtly implored their protection.

It was therefore ſeemingly in compliance with the cacique's requeſt, that the admiral ordered a tower to be built of the timber

timber of the wrecked veſſel, and this being furniſhed with ammunition, arms, and cannon, he manned it with a garriſon of ſix and thirty men, under the joint command of James d' Arana, Peter Gutierres, and Roderic d' Eſkovedo, whom he earneſtly recommended to the favor and good offices of the king and his people.

Having provided this fort with all neceſſaries, including the boat belonging to ſhip that was loſt, he reſolved to return directly to Caſtile, leſt ſome other misfortune happening to the only ſhip that now remained, might diſable him for ever from giving their catholic majeſties information of the important diſcoveries he had alrea-

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dy made, and the countries he had annexed to their dominions.

Having therefore made all the requiſite preparations for the voyage, he ſet ſail from the port of Nativity, where he had ſettled his firſt colony, on Friday the fourth day of January, at ſun-riſing, and ſtanding to the north weſt, to get clear of the ſhoal water, took ſuch marks of the land as would enable him to know the mouth of the harbor in any future expedition. The wind being contrary, he made but little way to the eaſtward, when on Sunday morning he fell in with the caraval Pinta, commanded by Martin Alonzo Pinzon, who going on board, endeavored to excuſe his deſertion, by ſaying he loſt ſight of the admiral in

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the night, and alledging other frivolous reasons, the fallacy of which, though Columbus plainly saw, he disguised his sentiments, rather than run any risk of prejudicing the common cause, by giving rise to a dangerous dissension, for almost all the people engaged in this expedition were either relations or townsmen of Pinzon.

Pinzon had sailed to a river fifteen leagues to the eastward of the Nativity, where he spent sixteen days in bartering with the natives for gold, of which he had obtained a large quantity, and distributed one half among his crew, in order to acquire popularity, as well as their consent to keep what remained for his own use: so that he carefully concealed his success from the knowledge

ledge of the admiral. After this tranſaction, he anchored at Monte Chriſto, a round hill, like a pavilion, about eighteen leagues eaſt of cape Santo, but the weather not permitting him to proceed, he went in his boat up a river to the ſouth-weſt of the mount, and diſcovering ſome ſigns of gold duſt in the ſand, called it the river of gold

On Sunday, January the thirteenth, being near cape Enamorado, the admiral ſent his boat on ſhore, where there ſtood ſome Indians with fierce countenances, armed with bows and arrows, making a ſhew of oppoſition, though they appeared to be in great conſternation: however, by the mediation of the Salvador linguiſt, they werebrought to a kind of confidence, and

one of them venturing to go on board of the admiral, appeared ſo ferocious, both in his ſpeech and aſpect, which was ſmutted with charcoal, that the Spaniards concluded he was one of the Caribbee canibals, and that the bay parted this place from Hiſpaniola: but when the admiral enquired about the country of the Caribbees, he pointed with his finger to an iſland farther eaſt.

Having anſwered theſe interrogatories, partly by ſigns, and partly by means of the Indian interpreter, he was entertained with victuals, and ſet aſhore with various preſents, that he might perſuade his countrymen to bring down gold to barter—at the place where he was landed, there was a

fort

ſort of ambuſcade of fifty men with long hair, adorned with plumes of parrot feathers; who being armed with bows and arrows, and great cudgels in lieu of ſwords, refuſed to carry on any trade with the Spaniards, notwithſtanding the exhortations of their friend, but on the contrary, treated them with ſcorn, and even began to commit hoſtilities. The Spaniards, who were but ſeven in all, ſeeing them advance with fury in their looks, met them half way, and charging them with great intrepidity, cut one with a ſword on the buttock, and ſhot another with an arrow in the breaſt, the whole party inſtantly turned their backs and fled, and many of them would certainly have been killed, had not the pilot of the caraval interpoſed in their

behalf;

behalf. The admiral was not diſpleaſed at this ſkirmiſh, which he thought would inſpire the Indians with ſuch high notions of their valour, as would hinder them from making any attempts to the prejudice of the ſettlement at the Nativity: for he did not doubt that all the inhabitants of the iſland would ſoon hear, that ſeven Spaniards had attacked and beaten more than fifty of their beſt warriors.

On Wedneſday January 16th. both veſſels being in a leaky condition, the admiral ſet ſail for Spain from the gulph of Samana, and continuing their courſe with a fair wind they had made ſo much way that on the 9th. day of February they were within 100 leagues of the Weſtern-iſlands.

On

On the 14th. of February they were overtaken by a violent tempeſt: the caraval Pinta being incapable of ſailing upon a wind run due north before it, and in the night loſt ſight of the admiral, who ſteered north eaſt, in order to make the coaſt of Spain. In conſequence of this ſeparation the company of each ſhip concluded the other had periſhed. Their ſituation was rendered ſtill more deplorable by the ſcarcity of proviſion, and the want of ballaſt, by which the ſhip was in danger of being overſet. To remedy this inconvenience, the admiral ordered his caſks to be filled with ſea water, and that his diſcovery might have ſome chance of being known whatevever might be the fate of him and his people, he wrote a brief account of it upon

upon two ſkins of parchment, which he wrapped in oil cloths, covered with wax and put into ſeparate caſks which he threw into the ſea, after the bungs were well ſecured, hoping that one or other might be taken up by ſome European veſſel.

Before this ſtorm had in the leaſt abated, on Friday the fifteenth of February, at break of day, one of the ſailors from the round top diſcovered land to the eaſt north eaſt, which the pilot judged to be the rock of Liſbon, though the admiral ſuppoſed it to be one of she Azores: but the wind being rough and blowing off ſhore, they diſcovered other land, where they made ſhift to anchor on Monday. The inhabitants of this iſland who came on board with freſh, proviſions,

and

and many compliments from the governor, who lived at a town which was at a great diſtance, were amazed at the ſucceſs of the expedition, and ſeemed to rejoice at the diſcovery of Columbus. They were likewiſe ſurpriſed to ſee he had outlived the ſtorm, which according to their account had laſted fifteen days without intermiſſion, and as they ſaid there was in this neighborhood a hermitage dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin, the admiral and crew reſolved to perform the vow of penance they had made during their diſtreſs of walking thither barefoot, eſpecially as the people and governor expreſſed ſuch affection, and belonged to a prince in amity with their Caſtilian majeſties.

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He therefore ſent the caraval's boat on ſhore with one half of the company to fulfill this penance, with orders to return immediately, that the reſt might ſucceed them in the ſame ſort of devotion, but they had no ſooner undreſſed themſelves and begun their proceſſion, than they were attacked and made priſoners by the governor and a number of people who had lain in ambuſh for that purpoſe. Columbus having waited in vain from day-break 'till noon, for the return of the boat, began to ſuſpect foul play, and as he could not where he lay, diſcover the hermitage, he ſailed round a point from whence he could ſee it, and perceived a good many Portugueſe on horſeback alight and enter the boat, with intent, as he ſuppoſed to attack the caraval: he there-

fors

fore ordered his men to be upon their guard, and was not without hope that the commander would come on board, in which caſe he would have detained him as a hoſtage; but as the Portugueſe would not advance beyond a certain diſtance, the admiral demanded their reaſon for committing ſuch an outrage on his men, who had gone aſhore under the faith of a ſafe conduct, and gave them to underſtand that the king of Portugal would certainly be offended at ſuch behavior to the ſubjects of their catholic majeſties, with whom he was in alliance.

To this remonſtrance the Portugueſe captain anſwered, that what they had done was at the expreſs order of the king; ſo that Columbus imagining there was a breach between

between the two crowns, called all his men to bear witneſs to what they had heard; and directing his diſcourſe to the Portugueſe, ſwore he would never quit the veſſel until he ſhould have taken one hundred Portugueſe, and deſtroyed the whole iſland. Meanwhile he returned to the port he had left, but next day the wind encreaſing and his riding being unſafe, he loſt his anchors, and was obliged to ſtand out to ſea towards the iſland of St. Michael, though not without being expoſed to great danger, as he had but three able ſeamen left, the reſt being boys, Indians, and landmen, who underſtood nothing of ſea affairs.

Next day the weather being mild, he endeavored to recover the iſland of St. Mary, which

which he reached on Thurſday the twenty firſt, in the afternoon, and ſoon after his arrival the boat came off with five men and a notary, who upon proper ſecurity went on board, and deſired to know, in the governor's name, whence the ſhip came, and whether or not the admiral had the king of Spain's commiſſion. Being ſatisfied in theſe particulars, they went on ſhore and releaſed the Spaniards, who had been informed that the king of Portugal had ſent orders to all his governors, to ſecure if poſſible the perſon of the admiral, and that, as this ſcheme did not ſucceed, they had diſmiſſed the priſoners whom they had taken.

Columbus having recovered his men, departed

parted from the iſland of St. Mary on Sunday the twenty fourth of February.

On the third of March, they were expoſed to another tempeſt, attended with thunder and lightening, during which their ſails were ſplit, and they vowed to perform a pilgrimage to our lady at Cinta de Guelva: they now ran under bare poles through a terrible ſea, and had well nigh been loſt on the rock of Liſbon, which they accidentally diſcovered at midnight, and next day being obliged to come to an anchor in the river Tagus, the admiral ſent an expreſs to their catholic majeſties with the news of his arrival, and another to the king of Portugal, aſking leave to anchor before the city

city, as he did not think himſelf ſafe in his preſent ſituation.

On Tueſday, March the fifth, the maſter of a great guardſhip came with a boat full of armed men along ſide of the admiral, whom he required to go and give an account of himſelf to rhe king's officers, according to the practice of all ſhips that entered that river. To this ſummons Columbus replied, that as the king of Spain's admlral, he would not degrade himſelf ſo far as to comply with any ſuch cuſtom, nor would he ſend the moſt inconſiderable perſon belonging to his ſhip upon an errand of that nature. The Portugueſe finding him reſolute, deſired he would ſhew him the king of Spain's letter, that he might ſo far ſatisfy

tisfy his captain, and this requeſt being complied with, he returned to his ſhip, and made a ſuitable report to his commander Alvara de Acunha, who forthwith came on board the caraval, attended with fifes, drums and trumpets, and welcomed the admiral with many expreſſions of friendſhip and goodwill.

The nature of the voyage was no ſooner known at Liſbon, than multitudes of people came to ſee the Indians, and learn the particulars of this amazing diſcovery, inſomuch that the whole river was covered with boats crowded with people, ſome of whom praiſed God for the ſucceſs of Columbus, while others bitterly curſed the hard fate of their nation, which had loſt ſuch a prize

through

through their king's avarice or incredulity.

This prince having received the admiral's letter, ordered his officers to preſent him with all ſorts of refreſhment and neceſſaries gratis; at the ſame time he wrote to Columbus, congratulating him upon his happy return, and deſiring to ſee him before he ſhould leave his dominions. Columbus at firſt ſcrupled to accept of this invitation, but conſidering that the king of Portugal was at peace with his ſovereigns, and had treated him with uncommon hoſpitality and regard, he reſolved to wait upon his Portugueſe majeſty, who then reſided about nine leagues from Liſbon, at a place called Valparaiſo, where the admiral arrived on Saturday night, being the ninth of March.

The

The king ordered all the nobility of the court to go out and meet him: when he was conducted to his preſence, he inſiſted upon his putting on his cap and ſitting down, and having with ſeeming pleaſure heard the particulars of the voyage, offered to ſupply him with every thing he wanted, though he could not help obſerving that the conqueſt of right belonged to him, inaſmuch as Columbus had been in the ſervice of Portugal. The admiral modeſtly gave his reaſons for being of a contrary opinion, to which the king replied "It was very well, he did not doubt but juſtice would be done." This converſation being ended, he ordered the prior of Crato to entertain olumbus who having ſtaid all Sunday and part of Monday, took his leave, after having been

treated

treated by his majesty with great honor, and tempted by very considerable offers to reengage in his service. He was attended on his return by Don Martin de Noronha, and many other persons of rank, and as he passed by a monastery where the queen was she desired to see him, and received his visit with great respect. That same night a gentleman came from the king, to tell him that if he had a mind to go to Castile by land, he would accompany and provide him with accommodations on the road as far as the frontiers of Portugal. He declined this offer with suitable acknowledgements, and setting sail from the river of Lisbon on Wednesday, March the thirteenth, arrived the Friday following at Saltes, and came to an anchor in the port of Palos,

from whence he had departed on the third day of Auguſt in the preceding year.

On his landing, he was received by all the people in proceſſion, giving thanks to God for his proſperous ſucceſs, which it was hoped would redound ſo much to the advantage of Chriſtianity, and the grandeur of their catholic majeſties. By this time Pinzon had arrived in Galicia, and deſigned to carry in perſon the news of the diſcovery to court, when he received orders forbidding him to come without the admirel, under whoſe command he had been ſent on the expedition. This mortifying repulſe made ſuch an impreſſion upon him, that he fell ſick, and returning to his native

tive place, in a few days diedof grief and vexation.

Meanwhile Celumbus ſet ſail for Seville, in his way to Barcelona, where their majeſties at that time reſided, and the roads were crowded by all ſorts of people, who flocked together to ſee him and the Indians in his train. About the middle of April he arrived at Barcelona, where he was received in the moſt ſolemn manner by the whole court and city: their catholic majeſties, who ſat in public upon rich chairs, under a canopy of cloth of gold, ſtood up when he approached to kiſs their hands, cauſed him to be ſeated in their preſence, and treated him as a grandee of the firſt order, who had done the moſt important ſervice

vice to his country; nay, so highly favored was he for his merit aud success, that when the king rode about Barcelona, Columbus was always at his side, an honor which had never been conferred before upon any but the princes of the blood.

Nor was their regard confined to unsubstantial forms; he was gratified with new patents, enlarging, explaining, and confirming the privileges which he had before obtained; and extending the viceroyalty and admiralship over all the countries he had discovered, as well as those he should discover, for it was resolved he should return to the West Indies with a powerful armament to support the colony he had settled, and proceed with further discoveries,

and

and in the meantime they ſolicited and pro cured from pope Alexander VI. an exclu-ſive right to all the lands he ſhould find and ſubdue in that direction as far as the Eaſt Indies.

END OF THE FIRST VOYAGE.

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